

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF INFORMATION & BROADCASTING**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 240
TO BE ANSWERED ON 19.07.2022**

ILLEGAL BETTING AND GAMBLING THROUGH MEDIA

**240. SHRI VENKATESH NETHA BORLAKUNTA:
SHRI PRATAPRAO JADHAV:
SHRI SANJAY SADASHIVRAO MANDLIK:
SHRI SHRIRANG APPA BARNE:
SHRI DHAIRYASHEEL SAMBHAJIRAO MANE:
SHRI BIDYUT BARAN MAHATO:
DR. G. RANJITH REDDY:
SHRIMATI KAVITHA MALOTHU:
SHRI SUBRAT PATHAK:
SHRI SUDHEER GUPTA:
SHRI RAVI KISHAN:
SHRIMATI SARMISTHA SETHI:
SHRI RAVINDRA KUSHWAHA:**

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state;

(a) whether the Government is aware that illegal betting and gambling through media and online advertisement intermediaries is posing serious financial and socio-economic risk for the consumers in the country particularly youth and children and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the Government is aware of proliferation of betting in various sports (both online and offline) in the country, if so, the details thereof and the steps taken to curb such cases in future;

(c) whether it is true that there are surrogate advertisements in all kinds of media and if so, the steps taken by the Government to stop such advertisements in future;

(d) whether the Government has issued any advisory to print, electronic and digital media asking them to refrain from advertising online betting platforms and if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government proposes to bring any strict legislation to prevent such illegal betting and gambling through media and online advertisement; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and the time by which such a legislation is likely to come into force and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

**THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING; AND
MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS**

(SHRI ANURAG SINGH THAKUR):

(a) to (b): “Betting and Gambling” come under Entry 34 and 62 of List – II of the 7th Schedule of the Indian Constitution which provides for their regulation by States. Based on the erstwhile Public Gambling Act, 1867, most State Governments have enacted their own laws to deal with betting and gambling within their jurisdictions.

(c): The Cable Television Networks Rules, 1994 inter-alia provides that advertisements of products which are brand extension of cigarettes, tobacco products, wine, alcohol etc. can be telecast on TV only under certain specified conditions and pre-certification by the Central Board of Film Certification (CBFC).

The Central Consumer Protection Authority (CCPA) under Department of Consumer Affairs has notified Guidelines for Prevention of Misleading Advertisements and Endorsements for Misleading Advertisements, 2022 on 09th June, 2022 which prohibit surrogate advertisements and have, inter-alia, several preemptive provisions on advertisements targeting children.

(d) to (f): This Ministry issued an advisory dated 13.06.2022 to print, electronic and digital media to refrain from publishing advertisements of online betting platforms which are misleading, and do not appear to be in conformity with the Consumer Protection Act 2019, Advertisement Code under the Cable Television Networks Regulation Act, 1995, and advertisement norms under the Norms of Journalistic Conduct laid down by the Press Council of India.

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